

U.N.: No new Sahara talks

UNITED NATIONS (R) — Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar said Friday he was opposed to reopening negotiations on any part of a peace plan for Western Sahara accepted in principle on Aug. 30 by Morocco and the Polisario front. The plan, details of which have not been officially disclosed, provides for a ceasefire and referendum in the former Spanish territory whose rule by Morocco has been opposed since 1976 by Algerian-backed Polisario guerrillas. Polisario has been pressing for direct talks with Morocco, which Rabat opposes. "The secretary general has taken note of the comments and observations that accompanied the acceptance of the peace proposals by the two parties," Perez de Cuellar said in a written report to the General Assembly. "However, the secretary general views the peace proposals as a delicate balance of essential elements and a compromise aimed at promoting a just and definitive solution to the question of Western Sahara. For these reasons he does not consider it advisable to reopen negotiations on any of these elements," he said.

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AROUND THE WORLD...

More Kurds return under Iraqi amnesty

DIVARAKIR, Turkey (R) — Turkey repatriated a second group of Iraqi Kurdish refugees Friday as Baghdad unofficially extended an amnesty, officials said. But clashes between rival Kurdish groups in some of the five refugee camps along the border held up the repatriation process and signs of tension over where they would spend the winter. A total of 450 Kurds passed through the remote Hubub crossing in southeast Turkey after Iraq said an amnesty that expired Thursday would still apply, officials said.

Norway wants new talks with Israel

OSLO (R) — The Norwegian government wants new talks in a dispute over heavy water it sold to Israel because present arrangements do not permit it to verify that it was not used to make atomic weapons, government sources said Friday. Norway sold the water to Israel in 1959 under condition it was used only for peaceful purposes and in 1986 — suspicious that Israel had used it to make plutonium for atomic weapons — demanded its right to inspection. The Israelis agreed in June to allow Norway to run chemical analysis of what remains of the water, but present proposals would not give Norway the opportunity to find out what the heavy water was used for. Norway wants to inspect the whole 20 tonnes of heavy water sold to Israel, the sources said.

Nine held in Zambian subversion probe

LUSAKA (R) — Six Zambian military officers and three civilians have been detained for questioning about alleged subversive activities, the authorities announced Friday. State television broadcast a statement by the secretary of state for defence and security, Alex Shapi, who said the nine were helping police with their enquiries. The TV report gave no more details. Parliamentary and presidential elections are scheduled in Zambia Oct. 26.

Turkish police shoot dead 4 fugitives

ANKARA (R) — Four leftist prisoners who escaped from a high-security Turkish jail two weeks ago were killed in a gun battle with police near Istanbul, the semi-official Anatolian news agency reported Friday. It said they were hiding beneath a bridge near Tzula on the Istanbul-Ankara highway and opened fire when police called in them to surrender. They were among 18 leftist convicts who tunneled their way out of a civilian jail Kirschir, 150 kilometres southeast of Ankara, Sept. 17. Four were recaptured two days later. **Moscow police detain protest leaders**

MOSCOW (R) — Around 30 people were detained by police Friday during a banned demonstration by the Democratic Union opposition group calling for reform of the Soviet constitution, organisers said. Yuri Mityunov, a spokesman for the group, said the organisers seized several hundred people gathered in Moscow's Pushkin Square for a meeting intended to mark the Soviet Union's Constitution Day, a public holiday here. According to our provisional estimates around 300 people were taken away by police," Mityunov told Reuters.

Israel begins mass polio vaccination

RISHON LEZION (R) — Israel began the vaccination of all residents under 40 against polio Friday as a government foreign expert said there was an epidemic of the crippling disease. Ten cases of polio have been confirmed in the last month and the health ministry said polio virus had been found in sewage in the towns of Acre, Hadera, Rehovot, Ramle and Lod. Residents of four towns queued to receive oral vaccine drops. Friday and officials said immunisation would be extended to the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip.

Cyprus to send Iraqi group to Iran

NICOSIA (R) — A group of Iraqis who reached Cyprus from Iran last March in a bid to settle in the west will be returned to Tehran next week. Cypriot Interior Minister Christodoulos Ventouras said Friday. The 15 men, women and children were put on a plane to Tehran on Wednesday but the Iran Air pilot refused to take off with them, delaying the flight for six hours, airport sources said. "He apparently could not see why unwilling Iraqis should be forced to go to Iran," one airport source said. Ventouras told Reuters: "Arrangements have been made and they will depart with the next flight of Iran Air, back to Iran from where they came."

Explosion rocks Durban shopping centre

DURBAN (R) — An explosion tore through a suburban shopping centre in the South African coastal city of Durban Friday, wrecking a book store but causing no serious injuries, police said. The South African Press Association reported that two people suffered light injuries in the blast and were treated for minor cuts.

U.S. bases in Greece still threatened

ATHENS (R) — The United States and Greece ended their latest talks on American military bases here Friday, with the installations still under threat of closure in 1990. The week-long 11th round followed an American walkout in September after the Greek socialist government said a big U.S. air force base near Athens must close whatever the outcome of the talks on the other American installations. Officials on both sides said an 11th round would be held in Washington in early November. The present basing accord expires in December and the Americans then have 17 months to pack up and go home unless a new agreement is signed.

Turkey, Saudi Arabia sign protocol

ANKARA (R) — Turkey and Saudi Arabia have signed a protocol to cooperate in preventing terrorism and drug smuggling, officials said Friday. It was agreed by Saudi Arabia's interior minister, Prince Nayef Ibn Abdul Aziz, and Turkish Interior Minister Mustafa Kemal during two days of official talks on internal security.

Namibian cabinet offers olive branch

WINDHOEK, Namibia (R) — Namibia's cabinet Friday promised safe passage for exiled black guerrilla leaders to return home to discuss the future of this huge, South African-ruled territory. A statement issued by Dirk Mudge, white chairman of the transitional government, urged officials of the South West Africa People's Organisation (SWAPO) to attend talks on national reconciliation and independence. "We formally guarantee the safety of the SWAPO officials who will travel to Windhoek for these discussions," it said.

China puts new fighter into operation

PEKING (API) — China's air force has begun using a new, domestically built jet fighter, the Liberation Army daily said Friday. The official newspaper of the People's Liberation Army did not give details of the new fighter, but Western military experts in Peking said it was probably the F-8-II, a high-altitude supersonic twin-jet fighter with a cruising range of 2,200 kilometres.

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordan Press Foundation

جورдан تايمز يومية سياسية تصدر بالإنجليزية عن المؤسسة الصحفية الأردنية - الرأي.

Sudan suspends locust battle

KHARTOUM (R) — Specialists battling locust swarms near Sudan's border with Ethiopia have been pulled out and crop-spraying planes grounded after attacks by Ethiopian air force jets, the Sudan News Agency reported Friday. SUNA quoted Plant Protection Director Ali Mohammad Ali as saying the locust control operations along the frontier had been halted after the Ethiopian attacks. He said the warplanes had hit Sudanese border posts and all locust control teams in the areas pulled out although several locust swarms were expected from Ethiopia. Newspaper reports said Ethiopian aircraft fired on two vehicles of the plant protection department and that two spraying planes flying on locust control work in the area were shot at. There were no reports of injuries. Khartoum newspapers said Sudan had protested to Ethiopia about the attacks which came when the two countries were cooperating in locust control work. Late last month swarms of locusts flew over the Sudanese capital heading southeast towards Ethiopia. Experts say the plague could be the worst in 30 years. Sudan is already suffering from widespread famine in the south after five years of civil war.

27 wounded in clashes with troops

4 Palestinians killed in Nablus

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (Agencies) — Israeli soldiers shot dead four Palestinians and wounded 27 in the occupied West Bank town of Nablus Friday in clashes which flared after troops killed a Palestinian the previous night, Palestinian and hospital sources said.

The army confirmed two dead and 14 injured in Nablus Friday and said it was checking reports of other casualties.

The army clamped curfews on Nablus, where soldiers and Palestinians have clashed every day this week. The nearby Balata and Askar refugee camps were also under curfew Friday.

The victims included Ahmad Mohammad Al Mashharawi, 17, who died of bullet wounds, sources at Ittihad hospital in Nablus said.

Twenty-seven wounded Palestinians, most of them shot, were admitted to Injil hospital in Nablus Friday, hospital sources said.

Palestinians said Samir Bahabli, 24, died instantly from bullet wounds in the head and chest when soldiers fired on stone-throwing demonstrators early Friday morning. Three Palestinians were injured.

The clash erupted after a funeral procession for a 27-year-old Nablus man shot dead by troops Thursday. Soldiers did not intervene in the march but opened fire to disperse protesters following the man's burial.

The sources said Bahabli was killed outside his house near the Salaheddin Mosque and may not have been involved in the protest.

The demonstrations spread to other areas of the city, and sil-

dies later shot dead Jamal Ali Nagar and Al Al Sayikh, hospital sources said. Palestinians reported that a large crowd marched Nagar's body to Nablus' eastern cemetery for immediate burial.

Palestinians said troops wounded 27 Palestinians with live ammunition. One teenager with serious head wounds was rushed to Arab Jerusalem's Mokassed hospital, a hospital official said.

Near the village of Burqa, north of Nablus, a West Bank resident believed to be collaborating with Israel was found stabbed to death in a cave. Villagers identified the man as Mohammad Al Shaer, 52.

He would be the third suspected collaborator killed in less than 48 hours. Underground leaders of the 10-month-old uprising in the occupied territories have urged Palestinians to attack collaborators.

Friday's deaths raise to at least 296 the number of Palestinians to have died in the revolt.

In the Gaza Strip, Palestinians closed their shops for the second consecutive day, observing a strike call by Islamic Jihad, Palestinians said.

The Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) sources said the meeting, which began late Thursday and continued into Friday, was presided over by PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat who returned to Tunis Thursday after touring China, Bangladesh and India.

Some PLO sources said the council, which would probably meet in Algiers later this month, would decide on the political options formulated by a PLO committee last July after Jordan broke its legal and administrative ties with the West Bank.

In an interview published Wednesday by the Tunisian weekly Al Batal, Salah Khalaf, the PLO's number two, said the PLO favoured the immediate proclamation of an independent Palestinian state and the postponement of the creation of a government in exile.

Ghali, in an interview published by the French-language newspaper Le Journal d'Egypte, said Muhamar had briefed British, French and West German leaders on his views, including the need for the Palestinians to reach a united position.

"We call on the United Nations Security Council, Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar and the PLD's number two, to take the necessary practical steps to protect the Palestinians, who are the victims of a lunatic plan implemented by the Israeli occupation forces," Abu Sharif said.

"Our people managed to push the Israelis out of the old city with sticks and stones, but it is still besieged," he added.

Abu Sharif said the Israeli forces used live ammunition in what he said was the "implementation of a fascist, terrorist plan against our people."

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"They can't afford to let this drag on. It's pure arson, without any aims or direction. People are very unhappy about the damage. It's all our property, they say," said one.

A middle-aged working-class Algerian, however, said the riots had cleared the air after years of economic hardship brought about by falling oil and gas revenues.

"The population feels really relieved. They'd had their fill of the economic situation and the mood was explosive," he said.

President Chadli Benjedid proclaimed the state of emergency on Thursday and ordered the curfew.

Some residents, interviewed by telephone from Tunis, supported



CROWN PRINCE LEAVES FOR BRITAIN: His Majesty King Hussein Friday sees off His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan upon his departure for Britain on a several-day visit. The Crown Prince is accompanied by Her Royal Highness Princess Aishah Bint Al Hussein and Prime Minister Zaid Rifai (Petra photo)

Iran sees 'modest progress' in talks

UNITED NATIONS (AP) — Iranian Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati has said "modest progress" had been made in recent Iran-Iraq peace talks on consolidating a ceasefire, troops withdrawal and prisoner exchange.

He said Thursday that he was willing to resume talks in Geneva with the U.N. secretary-general's representative and with Iraq Oct. 26 or Oct. 27.

Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar has suggested such talks.

Asked about the release of U.S. hostages held by pro-Iranian extremists in Lebanon, Velayati said: "I categorically deny there are any talks between the United States and Iran and no talks on the hostage issue."

On the Iran-Iraq talks,

Sedki holds talks with Khasawneh

CAIRO (Petra) — Information Minister Hani Khasawneh Friday conveyed His Majesty King Hussein's best wishes and congratulations and those of Prime Minister Zaid Rifai to Egyptian Prime Minister Atef Sedki on Egypt's regaining Israeli-occupied Taba and Egypt's 1973 October victory over Israel.

Khasawneh discussed during his meeting with Sedki, which was attended by Egypt's Foreign Minister Esmat Abdul Meguid and Information Minister Salfat Al Sharif, bilateral relations and means of further enhancing them.

Two weeks before the release of Singh, who is a permanent U.S. resident, South Korean Oil Minister Lee Bong signed an agreement in Tehran to sell the spare parts to Tehran through South Korea.

The unattributed report in the Nation said the U.S. government agreed to pay \$7 million in ransom to the extremists holding the hostages but refused the group's demands for immunity from prosecution.

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Reporters from the AP in the Nation was based on interviews with three of about 15 dual passport holders involved in the contacts as well as South Korean sources who confirmed an Iranian report about the spare parts deal.

According to the Nation story, Iran agreed to pay a \$7 million ransom for the hostages because the United States refuses to directly purchase their freedom.

(Continued on page 51)

U.S.-S. Korean deal reported over hostages

TEL AVIV (AP) — An Israeli newspaper reported Friday the United States struck a deal with Iran to free U.S. hostages in Lebanon, including the supply of arms and spare parts to Tehran through South Korea.

The U.S. embassy in Tel Aviv refused to comment on the report.

President Ronald Reagan last week denied an earlier Nation report that the United States was negotiating directly with Iran.

The Nation report also said U.S. citizens who hold Iranian and Lebanese passports visited two of the hostages last January, including Terry Anderson, the chief Middle East correspondent of the Associated Press. Anderson, the longest held hostage, was kidnapped March 18, 1985.

Reporter Giora Shamsi told the AP the report in the Nation was based on interviews with three of about 15 dual passport holders involved in the contacts as well as South Korean sources who confirmed an Iranian report about the spare parts deal.

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(Continued on page 51)

Poll finds neck-and-neck Labour-Likud prospects

TEL AVIV (K) — The hardline Likud blue used televised advertisements to accuse the Labour Party of jeopardising "state security" in a naive quest for power. Labour accused Likud of using fear to gain votes.

The Labour-sponsored Dectma poll said Labour and the leftists lists would gain a narrow majority of 12 seats.

Meanwhile, American-born rabbi Meir Kahane appealed to Israel's supreme court Friday requesting it overturn a central election committee decision to disqualify his anti-Arab party from running in the elections.

The parliamentary committee barred Kahane's Kach party from participating in the elections, saying its platform is racist. A new law bars racist parties from running for government.

OPENING TODAY...

SOVIET BOOK EXHIBITION

Latest books published in Soviet Union on art, literature, sciences, politics and children's books and dictionaries in Arabic, English and Russian.

Daily from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m., until Oct. 18
a Plaza Hotel

JTV Channel 2 preview

Sat. — Oct. 8, 1988

11:10 Some Mothers Do 'Ave Em

8:30 Growing Pains Bringing Up Baby

The kids voice their feelings about the new baby and Maggie is afraid to tell her boss she is pregnant.

9:00 Documentary: Humanitas (Part 2)

A documentary programme about refugees, immigrants and expelled persons in the Third World.

9:30 Saturday Variety Show

10:20 Feature Film The Hasty Heart

A love story in a Burmese military hospital during World War II between a beautiful English nurse and a Scotsman patient who does not know that he is terminally ill with only a few weeks to live.

Starring: Gregory Harrison Cheryl Ladd, Perry King

Sun. — Oct. 9, 1988

8:30 Throb

9:10 Documentary: The Silk Road 2. The Kind's Road (Pakistan)

10:20 Magnum

Mon. — Oct. 10, 1988

Too Late The Rebel

9:10 Documentary: Korea The Unknown War

8:30 Perfect Strangers

9:10 Enemy At The Door

10:20 Play: Murder By Proxy

After the death of the company chairman, a bloody struggle starts among the board members for the chairmanship and some are murdered.

Tue. — Oct. 11, 1988

8:30 Who's The Boss Angela Gets Fired

9:10 The Soldier of Fortune (Episode Two)

Offers Ferdinand to finance his projects but he refuses. Robert comes to aid the besieged camp and saves them. Then he says farewell and leaves to London.

10:20 Hunter

11:10 Specials To Us A Child

Thu. — Oct. 13, 1988

8:30 Bill Cosby Show

9:10 Beauty and the Beast

10:20 Feature Film The Electric Horseman

Starring: Robert Redford Jane Fonda

The story is about a beat-up cowboy who becomes a cereal huckster for a conglomerate and who fights back against the system.

Fri. — Oct. 14, 1988

8:30 Paul Daniels Magic Show

9:10 Hannay A Point of Honour

A chance encounter with a young lady on a train leads Hannay into a strange weekend of mistaken identity and danger.

10:20 Falcon Crest Lovers and Friends

11:10 Three's Company "Days of Beer and Weeds"

After finishing her chores in the garden, Chrissy gives Mrs. Roper some dramatic looking culled plants for the floral arrangement she is exhibiting at an arts and crafts show. Before Larry, their hip neighbour, can say "cannabis" (or is it?), the show is on. Chrissy and Jack panic when Larry also mentions the possibility of a year in jail.

Joanna Kerns as Maggie in "Growing Pains," Saturday at 8:30 p.m.

JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR

JORDAN TELEVISION

Tel. 773111-19

PROGRAMME ONE

15:30 Koran
15:55 Children programme
17:35 Educational programme
18:00 News summary
18:45 Message from Iraq
18:55 Message from Iraqi refugees
19:15 Family programme
19:40 Programme review
20:40 News in Arabic
20:45 Arabic series
21:40 Programme review
21:50 Local programme
22:30 Arabic play
23:10 News summary in Arabic
23:10 Arabic play

PROGRAMME TWO

18:00 La Vie en Coton
18:00 News in French
19:15 Un DB de Plus
19:30 News in Hebrew
19:45 Medicinal drug
20:00 News in Arabic
20:30 Current Affairs
21:00 Humour
21:30 Saturday Variety Show
22:00 News in English
22:30 Feature film: "The Hasty Heart"

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855 KHz. AM & 99 MHz. FM
& partly on 9500 KHz. SW
Tel. 774111-19

07:00 Morning Show
07:10 Newdesk
08:00 Morning Show
08:05 News Summary
09:00 Morning Show Contd.
11:00 Hitsville: The Story of Motown
12:00 News Summary
12:05 Pop Session
13:00 News Summary
13:05 Pop Session
14:00 News Bulletin
14:30 Jordan Weekly
15:00 Concert Hour
16:00 News Summary
16:05 Instrumental/Old favourites
17:00 Special Feature
Good Old Days
18:00 News Summary
18:45 Top Twenty
Newsdesk/Music
19:00 The Young Sound
20:30 Discovering Music
The Musical in Review
22:00 Country Music
23:00 Classical Concerts

24:00 Close Down

BBC WORLD SERVICE

634, T20, 1323 KHz

06:00 Newsdesk 06:30 Here's Humph!

06:45 Reflections 06:50 Financial News

07:00 World News 07:09 Twenty-Four Hours

News: News Summary 07:30 Personal View

07:45 The World Today 08:00

08:00 News 08:30 Merlin 09:00 World News 09:20 Two-Four Hours: News Summary 09:30 From the Weeklies 09:45 Network UK 10:00 World News 10:09 Reflections 10:15 A Jolly Good Show 11:00 World News 11:09 British Press Review 11:15 The World Today 11:30 Financial News followed by Sports 11:45 Personal View 12:00 News Summary followed by Here's Humph! 12:30 Letters from around the world 12:30 People and Politics 13:00 World News 13:09 News about Britain 13:15 Lyrics and Lyricists 13:30 Meridian 14:00 Radio Newsreel 14:15 Multirack 3 14:45 Sports Roundup 15:00 World News 15:59 Twenty-Four Hours: News Summary 15:30 Network UK 15:45 Merlin Newsreel 16:00 Sports 16:30 World News 16:45 Sports Roundup 16:50 World News 16:59 News about Britain 17:00 World News 17:15 The Ken Bruce Show 19:45 Sports Roundup 20:00 Newsdesk 20:30 Puccini 21:00 News Summary followed by Play of the Week: Heart of a Dog 22:00 World News 22:09 Twenty-Four Hours: News Summary 22:30 Merlin 23:00 News Summary followed by Americans in Europe 23:30 People and Politics 24:00 World News 00:09 From Our Own Correspondent 00:25 Nature Notebook 01:00 Sports 01:45 Sports Roundup 01:50 World News 01:49 News 01:55 The Tony Myatt Request Show

VOICE OF AMERICA

MW 1360 & SW 7200, 9565, 1740, 1925 and 1520 Hz

06:00 News 06:10 VOA Morning 07:00 News 07:10 VOA Morning 08:00 News 08:10 VOA Morning 17:00 News 17:10 Closeup 17:30 Press Conference, USA 18:00 News 18:10 American Viewpoints 18:30 Special English News & Features 19:00 News 19:10 Weekend 20:00 News 20:30 Closeup 20:30 Special English News & Features 21:00 News 21:10 American Viewpoints

21:30 Press Conference, USA 22:00 News 22:10 Muslim USA 22:30 Communications World 23:30 Weekend Magazine

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News Summary 17:00

Network News 17:00

World News 17:00

News Summary 17:00

News 17:00

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Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published in English by the Jordan Press Foundation. Established 1975.

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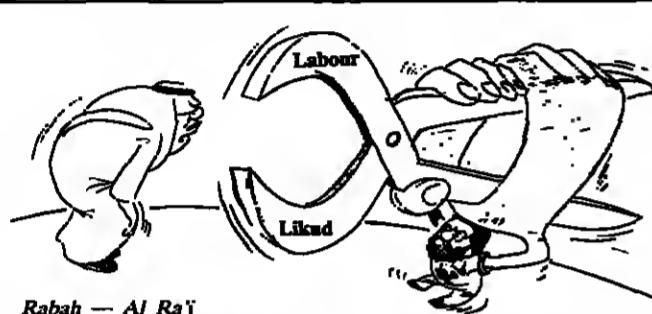
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ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Friday's

JORDANIAN Arabic dailies Fn'day commented in their editorials on the situation in the Middle East and Lebanon's crisis. Al Ra'i daily tackled the situation in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip where the uprising is now entering its 11th month with no letup in the force of the resistance and the struggle for freedom. The paper referred to Israel's various forms of repression and intimidation practices, and said that all forms of inhuman measures have failed to dissuade the Palestinians from pursuing their national objectives. Indeed, the uprising has gradually been transformed into a full-fledged revolution which calls for an all-out Arab support, the paper noted. Al Ra'i referred to Jordan's supportive stand for the Palestinian people, and said that this country has been and will continue to be a staunch supporter of the Palestinians in their endeavours to achieve freedom and liberate their occupied lands.

Al Dustour Arabic daily commented on Foreign Minister Taher Al Masri's address to the U.N. General Assembly in New York in which he tackled the situation in the Middle East and urged the international community and the world organisation to act promptly to re-establish justice in this region. The paper referred to the world-wide favourable political climate largely due to an East-West detente brought about by an improvement in relations between the USA and the USSR, and said that since the world is now bent on resolving regional issues, it is time that the Middle East issue was tackled with seriousness and with justice so that peace and stability can be established. The present favourable political situation in the world should be exploited by all peace loving nations and the world organisation find a just and durable settlement for the Palestine problem, the paper added.

Sawt Al Shaab daily tackled the situation in Lebanon which it said has become a source of danger for the Arab nation. The paper referred to Israel's continued tampering with the situation and the future of Lebanon, and said that the Lebanese people should not be left as victims to irresponsible factions, and that country must not be allowed to disintegrate. It called for a return to pan-Arab mediation efforts to save Lebanon and avoid another catastrophe in the Arab region brought about by Israel's conspiracies and the stubbornness of the heads of warring factions which have thrived from the sectarian conflicts in their country.

Thursday's

JORDANIAN newspapers Thursday discussed the question of Taba and the 15th anniversary of the October war that led to the eventual liberation of Taba and the whole of the occupied Egyptian territory.

Al Ra'i Arabic daily said that the October war of 1973 shattered for good the myth of the invincible Israeli army and came as a fruit of inter Arab solidarity involving Egypt on the one hand and Syria and Jordan on the other in confrontation with the common enemy. The October war had indeed embodied the joint struggle of the Arab people and proved that war was an effective option needed to end Israel's aggression on the Arab World, the paper added. Referring to the Camp David agreement which achieved no goal for the Arabs, the paper said that the Israelis succeeded in concluding that agreement with Egypt in the absence of solidarity in the Arab World. Solidarity, the paper added, is a great power that should not be neglected because it can abort all enemy conspiracies. The October war, the paper concluded, did not end in 1973 but it is quite alive with the on-going revolt of the Palestinian people in the occupied land.

For its part Al Dustour said that the return of Taba to Egyptian sovereignty marks a historic event, coming on the 15th anniversary of the 1973 October war. The return of this stretch of occupied land to its lawful owners bears significant meanings for the Arabs, underlining the need for continuous efforts for the return of the whole occupied Arab territory to the Arab people in implementation of U.N. Security Council resolutions. Under no circumstances should the Arabs abandon the struggle to regain their usurped territory, regardless of the hardships that they might encounter in this endeavour, the paper noted. The Jordanian people, the paper concluded, appreciate Egypt's struggle and its reaffirmation of the principles of the Security Council resolutions which call for Israel's total withdrawal from all occupied Arab lands.

ARABIC PRESS COMMENTARIES

No qualms

WRITING in Al Dustour Arabic daily, columnist Mu'nes Al Razzaz criticises media handling of Amnesty International report on human rights violations in more than 130 countries of the world. "A reader of the report as published in the Arab World press cannot help noticing that the only countries of the world which were not involved in such violations were the Arab states and the Scandinavian countries," says the writer. In an obvious satirical style, the columnist offers congratulations to the Arab World for not being involved in human rights violations like those committed by such countries as South Korea, Japan, Israel, South Africa, China and the USA, among many others. He recalls that some Arab states used to appear among the names of nations which used to practice such violations against their own citizens in the past, and says "the fact that such practice no more exists in the Arab World calls for congratulations to the Arab people for having reached a high level of human dignity on equal footing with the Scandinavian countries."

1987 Amnesty International report on Israel, occupied Arab territories

No benign occupation

The following is Amnesty International's report on the state of human rights in the occupied Arab territories and Israel during 1987.

IN DECEMBER 1987 at least 23 Palestinian demonstrators in the West Bank and Gaza were shot and killed by soldiers during widespread violent protests against the Israeli occupation. There were also severe and indiscriminate beatings of demonstrators, and hundreds were summarily tried and imprisoned. There was an increase in reports of ill-treatment and torture of detainees by members of the Israeli Defence Force (IDF) and the General Security Service (GSS). Political activists, including prisoners of conscience, continued to be administratively detained or restricted to towns or villages or imprisoned in violation of their right to freedom of expression.

In May the Israeli Cabinet ordered a judicial commission of inquiry into the interrogation methods of the GSS. This followed a Supreme Court ruling that the GSS had used illegal methods of interrogation and committed perjury in the case of a former IDF member sentenced in 1971 to 18 years' imprisonment for treason and espionage. The commission, headed by former Supreme Court President Moshe Landau, published its findings on October 30. It said that the GSS had committed perjury in proceedings related to the admissibility of confessions since 1971 in order to conceal its interrogation methods and to ensure that the accused were convicted. It said the GSS had used harsh methods of interrogation on Palestinian detainees, but argued that the use of limited and clearly defined psychological and physical pressure during the interrogation of "terrorist" suspects was legitimate. It proposed guidelines for the GSS to adopt (though these were kept confidential), and said that supervision and control of the service by the government should be strengthened.

In December violent demonstrations against the Israeli occupation erupted throughout the West Bank and Gaza. Demonstrators, many of them children and young people, threw stones and petrol bombs at Israeli soldiers who responded with force, including the use of live ammunition. By the end of 1987, 23 Palestinians had been shot and killed, and up to 200 wounded. Soldiers were seen severely and often indiscriminately beating demonstrators, including women and children, with clubs and rifle butts. Many required hospital treatment for

broken limbs, gunshot wounds or extensive bruising. Soldiers also forcibly removed wounded Palestinians from hospital in Gaza and beat them before taking them into custody. By the end of 1987, well over 1,200 Palestinians had been arrested and up to 300 brought before military courts, summarily tried and sentenced to between 20 days' and six months' imprisonment for participating in violent demonstrations. Lawyers in the occupied territories decided to boycott the quick trials, because, they said, they were prevented by the authorities from defending their clients properly and because of their clients' ill-treatment in detention. The trials proceeded despite the boycott.

During 1987, up to 360 political activists in Israel and the occupied territories were administratively detained or restricted to towns or villages. They included Palestinian journalists, students, trade unionists and members of women's and human rights organisations, as well as former security prisoners released in the 1985 prisoner exchange. For the first time since 1979, two Israeli Arabs were among those detained. Orders are mostly issued for six months (a few for three months), but are renewable. Thirty-five of those detained had served a previous detention order in the recent past and at least 24 of those restricted had served three or more consecutive periods of town arrest.

Among those administratively detained was prisoner of conscience Faisal Al Hussaini, director of the Arab Studies Society in Jerusalem. He was served with a six-month detention order on April 12. This was subsequently reduced to three months when, as required by law, his detention order was reviewed by a judge. The authorities said he was detained because he was involved with Fatah (a faction of the Palestine Liberation Organisation [PLO]), and had constituted a danger to public and state security by organising demonstrations and strikes. On September 12 he was issued with another six-month detention order, which was again upheld at the review hearing on similar grounds.

Scores of people in the occupied territories were arrested, and in some cases convicted, for membership of an illegal organisation, for possession or distribution of illegal or inciting literature or other political material or for inciting demonstrations.

There were also many short-term detentions in the occupied territories. Many of those arrested were school children and



"**IN DECEMBER 1987** at least 23 Palestinian demonstrators in the West Bank and Gaza were shot and killed by soldiers during widespread violent protests against the Israeli occupation."

students who were held for up to 18 days and released uncharged. Most were reportedly interrogated for information about political activities in their local community, or urged to cooperate with the Israeli authorities.

In Israel at least three reservists from among those who refused to carry out army reserve duty in the occupied territories were imprisoned as prisoners of conscience for between seven and 28 days.

The trial began on June 27 of four Israelis charged under Article 4 (h) of the Prevention of Terrorism Ordinance, which makes it an offence to have contact with an official of a "terrorist" organisation. They were part of a delegation which attended a conference in Romania in 1986 and met officials of the PLO. If convicted, they face a maximum sentence of three years. The trial was still in progress at the end of 1987.

Mordechai Vanunu, a former technician at Israel's nuclear research centre, was brought to trial in August on charges of treason and espionage. This related to his disclosure to a British newspaper of confidential information about Israel's nuclear capability. He had been abducted from Italy in September 1986 by Israeli security agents and forcibly returned to Israel. His trial, which had not been completed by the end of the year, was held

entirely in camera.

There was a marked increase in reports of torture and ill-treatment of Palestinian detainees to extract information or confessions or to harass and intimidate them. Detainees accused IDF personnel who carry out arrests and administer the detention centres of Al Fara'a and Dhahiyeh in the West Bank, and "Ansar 2" in Gaza, and members of the GSS who conduct interrogations in the security wings of regular prisons and of detention centres. Detainees were reported to have been beaten, kicked and punched on arrest and while being taken into custody. During interrogation, detainees said they had been hooded; beaten all over the body, including the head, genitals and soles of the feet; and subjected to prolonged exposure to cold, sleep deprivation, threats, and solitary confinement for between two and 15 days. Some said that they had been hung by a rope from the ceiling and swung from wall to wall. Two detainees in Al Fara'a's said in December that they had been subjected to electric shocks.

Some official investigations were carried out following complaints of ill-treatment. For example, in November six soldiers were convicted of ill-treating detainees in "Ansar 2"; the authorities also ordered an inquiry into interrogation methods used in Al Fara'a. However, lawyers said that complaints of ill-treatment

were often ignored or not thoroughly investigated by the authorities, and that some lawyers and detainees were threatened after making complaints.

In January an Amnesty International mission visited Israel and had discussions with the ministers of defence and foreign affairs and with officials from the Israeli ministries of justice and defence.

The concern raised included the use of administrative detention and restriction orders which Amnesty International argued can be abused to detain or restrict people for their non-violent political activity, and which cannot be effectively challenged since recipients of such orders are never given the full reasons for the order. Although these orders are subject to confirmation and review at military court hearings (or district courts in the case of residents of East Jerusalem and Israel), recipients are routinely denied access to information shown only to the judge. The Israeli authorities responded that these measures were only used against those who played a leadership role in one of the factions of the PLO (such as recruiting others, distributing money or organising unrest) and who were linked, albeit indirectly, with violent opposition to the Israeli authorities.

During 1987 Amnesty International urged the authorities to investigate 11 cases in which complaints of torture and ill-treatment of prisoners had been submitted to the authorities between 1985 and 1987. Amnesty International received a reply on only one of these cases.

In 1986 Amnesty International had written to the government about Adnan Mansur Ghaneim, who alleged being tortured in Gaza prison by members of the GSS in December 1985. In January the Attorney General conceded that Adnan Mansur Ghaneim had been subjected to "an intensive and taxing interrogation," but that there was "no persuasive evidence that he was tortured". The Attorney General claimed that the prisoner had attacked one of the interrogators and had had to be subdued by force and tear-gas. This explanation did not allay Amnesty International's concerns, particularly as to how he came to have a head wound which was visible when he appeared in court. In addition, the prison medical records were inadequate as a record of the prisoner's state of health and as documentation to support the authorities' contention that ill-treatment did not take place. These concerns were raised in April in a letter from Amnesty International to the Attorney General, but there was no further response.

In June an Amnesty International observer attended part of the trial of four people charged under Article 4 (h) of the Prevention of Terrorism Ordinance.

In August an Amnesty International observer unsuccessfully sought entry to the trial of Mordechai Vanunu. Amnesty International had expressed concern to the Attorney General in April that Mordechai Vanunu was charged with a capital offence, and later received assurances that the prosecution would not ask for the death penalty. However, the fairness of the trial continued to be a concern in view of the secrecy surrounding the case; the authorities' refusal to acknowledge publicly the defendant's detention in Israel for four weeks; their persistent attempts to prevent disclosure, even in closed court, about the manner of his arrest; his almost total isolation in prison; and the refusal to allow any independent monitoring of the trial.

In October Amnesty International sent a memorandum to the Attorney General concerning the legislation under which people could be imprisoned in violation of their right to freedom of expression in Israel and the occupied territories. The legislation concerned included: Article 4 (g) of the Prevention of Terrorism Ordinance, applicable in Israel, which prohibits public expressions of support for a "terrorist" organisation (such as waving the Palestinian flag); various military orders applicable in the occupied

Labour shortage grips Singapore

By Jose Katigbak
Reuter

SINGAPORE — Singapore is so short of workers that experts say a radical restructuring of the economy may be the only way out. Of every Singaporean couple should produce five children.

The city-state's Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry estimates that up to 60,000 workers are now needed to supplement Singapore's one-million-strong workforce.

The state construction industry development board is offering free training with expenses to anyone interested in becoming a skilled craftsman.

An increasingly angry debate rages on whether the retirement age should be raised from 55 to 60 years of age.

The difficulty of finding workers has forced some computer companies, including Seagate Technology, the biggest private sector employer in Singapore, to transfer their more labour-intensive production to neighbouring countries.

There are more walk-in job interview offers plastered on shop windows than ever before and the number of part-time workers has almost doubled over the past six years.

And according to government predictions, Singapore's overall labour shortage could get worse by the end of the century.

Population projections for the 15-to-29 year age group show numbers for the group dropping by as much as 25 per cent between the years 1985 and 2000.

Concern over Singapore's ability to reproduce itself forced the government two years ago to reverse its 20-year-old "Stop at two" children policy. Tax breaks and other incentives were introduced to lure couples into having more than three children.

More aggressive policy.

Officials expect 1988 to be a landmark year for births.

But experts say birth and marriage trends of the 1980s may

still oppose the idea, saying the scheme is too expensive because of higher salaries for the more senior employees and stiffer contributions to the worker's central provident fund, a compulsory old age savings scheme.

Experts say a radical restructuring of the economy may be the only way out — with more sophisticated automated industries requiring less manpower.

More and more companies are willing to raise the retirement age of their workers from 55 to 60 in an effort to combat the acute labour shortage.

Many companies, however,

view until Oct. 7. Most of the objects and photos displayed from her fatal visit belong to the Mayer family.

Sissi's ivory silk dress covered with pearls, given by the empress to a local maid whose descendants have preserved it, and her tiny telegram box, now in the possession of jeweller Benoit Gorski, have been loaned for the exhibition.

Album clippings

Hotel administrator Catherine Nickbarte-Mayer leafs through a huge album with photos and newspaper clippings which her grandmother Fanny Mayer collected after the assassination.

Sissi and Countess Szatray had been shopping to buy some children's toys. "Later, on their way to a steamboat, a man came up to Sissi and struck her with a weapon," Nickbarte-Mayer told Reuters.

"Sissi got up, but didn't realise what had happened. She thought the man had wanted to grab her jewels," Nickbarte-Mayer said.

The empress was helped to her feet and walked to the port where she boarded the steamboat unaware of her fatal injury.

"She fainted on the steamboat and the captain turned the ship around," Nickbarte-Mayer said.

"She was carried back to the hotel on a stretcher."

She added: "My grandmother

fanny, who was 24 years old at the time, stayed at her bedside with the Countess Szatray while a doctor tried to save Sissi. But she died 20 minutes later."

Thousands of people gathered outside the hotel as news of the assassination spread. The hotel was flooded by telegrams from newspapers seeking photographs and more information.

Sissi's body lay in state for several days before being taken back to Vienna, to be buried in the imperial burial vault.

Newspaper accounts quoted the Italian anarchist Luccheni, who fled from the scene but was later arrested, as shouting at his trial: "Long live anarchy, and death to all aristocrats."

Mistaken identity?

He had apparently initially intended to assassinate the visiting Duke of Orleans, who had left town that morning.

Jailed for life for murdering Sissi, he hanged himself in Geneva prison in 1910.

Elisabeth of Wittelsbach was born in 1837 to a ducal family in Bavaria, grand-daughter of King Maximilian of Bavaria.

Franz Josef fell in love with the 15-year-old girl — famed as the most beautiful princess in Europe — when their families met on holiday in 1853. They were married the following year.

Thousands of people from all over the world

gathered to pay their respects to

Middle East News

JORDAN TIMES, SATURDAY OCTOBER 8, 1988 5

MIDDLE EAST NEWS IN BRIEF

Israeli judge censors broadcasting army brutality

TEL AVIV (R) — A supreme court judge overseeing Israel's election campaign has censored pictures of army brutality from a televised political broadcast by the centre party, ruling that no soldiers in uniform may be shown. The three-second clip Wednesday showed an Israeli soldier hitting a Palestinian in the head in the occupied territories. It was superimposed on a picture of Israel's founding prime minister, David Ben Gurion, extending his hand in an offer of peace. In a message to all political parties contesting the November 1 elections, judge Eliezer Goldberg wrote: "It should not be necessary to state that the Israel defence forces should be outside the political controversy." No shots of troop movements, military activities, army vehicles, weapons or army camps may be used, he said.

Rebels say 57 killed or wounded in Eritrea

KUWAIT (R) — The Eritrean Liberation Front (united organisation) said Thursday its forces attacked Ethiopian army positions near the town of Umm Hajar Tuesday, killing or wounding 50. ELF deputy representative in Kuwait Mohammad Omer told Reuters two guerrillas were killed and five wounded in the eight-hour battle. The ELF is one of two main rebel groups fighting the Soviet-backed Ethiopian government for an independent Red Sea coastal province.

Libya denies U.S. allegations

ROME (R) — Libya Thursday denied United States' allegations that it had built a chemical weapons plant and was about to begin manufacturing poison gas. "Tripoli does not possess chemical weapons and the United States knows this perfectly well. These are lies to justify its own aggressive actions," Libyan Education Minister Ahmad Mohammad Ibrahim told a Rome news conference. The United States said on September 14 it had concluded that Libya had finished building a chemical weapons plant and was about to start full-scale production. Officials added they had reports that Tripoli had used chemical weapons against Chadian forces late last year. Ibrahim is in Italy for talks with Scientific Research Minister Antonio Ruberti in a further sign of the recent improvement in Rome's relations with Tripoli.

Saudi dailies launch anti-Iranian campaign

RIYADH (R) — Saudi Arabian newspapers launched a fresh wave of anti-Iranian accusations Thursday, a week after Riyadh beheaded four pro-Tehran saboteurs. Okaz and Al Yam dailies defended Riyadh's decision last April to cut ties with Tehran and blamed it and its spiritual leader Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini for tension in Arab-Iranian ties. "Khomeini and his followers used ... Iran and its people to fight the Arab states and opened a battle with Saudi Arabia," Okaz newspaper said. Okaz said Iran was involved in conspiracies to "recruit traitors to carry Iranian arms against their own countries and families to die for a modern idol called Khomeini."

Israel to decide new satellite's future

TEL AVIV (AP) — The Israeli cabinet may have to halt construction of a new satellite unless it comes up with about \$200 million needed to complete the project, a newspaper reported Thursday. The spacecraft, designed as a communications vehicle, is being built by the government-run Israel Aircraft Industries and is scheduled for launching in 1993, the Yediot Achronot newspaper said. The cabinet is expected to decide in the next few weeks whether it can afford to pursue the project, the report added. Three other newspapers reported Wednesday and Thursday that army generals were fighting continuation of the project, claiming the cost was too high.

Somalia signs pact with Soviet Union

MOGADISHU (R) — Somalia has signed its first agreement with the Soviet Union since it tore up a treaty of friendship in 1977.

Calm returns to Algiers

(Continued from page 11)
won independence from France 26 years ago, the army was given responsibility for public order. Bakeries were among the few shops open Friday. Other food stores remained closed either for lack of supplies or fear of renewed violence. While prices of meats and other goods have soared, bread remains heavily subsidised by the government. Army convoys escorted trucks carrying flour to bakeries early in the morning to assure supplies. "Getting provisions to the citizens is one of our main concerns, along with security," an army officer on one of the escorts told the AP. He declined to give his name.

The official Sonna news agency said Thursday that Somalia and the Soviet Union signed a one-year agreement covering cooperation in education, science, information, sports and the arts Wednesday. President Mohammad Siad Barre broke off links with the Soviet Union and expelled 6,000 Soviet diplomats over the disputed Ogaden region. Somalia had close ties to the Soviet Union until then.

Turkey welcomes second papal trip

VATICAN CITY (R) — Turkish Prime Minister Turgut Ozal told Pope John Paul Thursday his country would welcome a second papal visit. Ozal, making the first official trip by a Turkish premier to Italy in 56 years, made his comments at the end of a 20-minute private audience with the Pope at the Vatican. "My best regards to the president and the whole nation," the Pope told Ozal in English after the private part of the audience. The Muslim prime minister, who gave the pontiff a hand-made silk Turkish carpet as a gift, responded: "We would like to see you there again." In 1979, the Pope made a three-day trip to Turkey, which is about 98 per cent Muslim, to promote unity with Orthodox Christians.

Rebels to allow aid to south Sudan

KHARTOUM (R) — Guerrillas in famine-hit south Sudan will allow relief aid to get to millions of starving people, but only if the rebels are allowed to hand out the supplies, a Khartoum newspaper said Thursday. The Al Ayam daily said the Sudan People's Liberation Army would allow the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) to conditionally deliver food to the south. The newspaper said the Sudanese government had rejected the SPLA offer. The ICRC has been waiting since August for SPLA permission to deliver supplies to the estimated three million southerners facing starvation.

Turkish president sends message to Papandreou

ANKARA (R) — Turkish President Kenan Evren sent a message of good wishes to Greek Prime Minister Andreas Papandreou recovering from heart surgery in London, the foreign ministry said Thursday. "I extend my most sincere wishes for a speedy recovery and hope that you will soon regain your health to assume your duties," Evren said. Papandreou, who with Turkish Prime Minister Turgut Ozal pioneered better ties between their two countries after three decades of enmity, underwent a triple-heart bypass on September 30 to correct a valve defect. Ozal had a similar operation in the United States in February 1987.

Kuwait hopes to appoint envoy to Iran soon

KUWAIT (R) — Kuwait hopes to appoint an ambassador to Iran soon, Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al Sabah told his country's national news agency. "There is a Kuwaiti-Iranian desire to return to the good relations which prevailed in the past," the Kuwait news agency KUNA reported him as saying after meeting his Iranian counterpart Ali Akbar Velayati in New York. Kuwait expelled five Iranian diplomats last year after accusing Iran of firing missiles at its oil installations, mining its harbours and attacking its tankers in the Gulf. But ties have warmed since an August 20 ceasefire in the eight-year war between Iran and Iraq in which Kuwait hacked Baghdad.

U.S. hostage's sister planning birthday

NASHVILLE, Tennessee (AP) — The sister of U.S. newsmen Terry A. Anderson, the longest-held hostage in Lebanon, is asking country music stars to sign a birthday card for him. "Hopefully, Terry will see it and know that he's truly not forgotten," said Peggy Say, Mrs. Say has asked country music stars to sign the 15-foot by 2-foot card during rehearsals for Monday's 22nd annual Country Music Association awards show. Anderson, chief Middle East correspondent for the Associated Press, was abducted March 16, 1985. He will be 41 on Oct. 27.

U.S.-S. Korean deal reported

(Continued from page 11)
The newspaper said the money would be paid indirectly to the kidnappers by Iran in the form of commissions for Iranian purchases in the United States. It had angered the group and prompted them to release Singh. Hostages.

The report said U.S. refusal to guarantee immunity from prosecution to Hezbollah members had angered the group and prompted them to release Singh.

Afghan Mujahedeen: Third provincial capital captured

ISLAMABAD, Pakistan (AP) — Afghan rebels claimed Thursday they captured third provincial capital and seized a city along the strategic Kabul-Jalalabad highway that includes a major hydroelectric plant.

Spokesmen from Afghan resistance parties headquartered in Pakistan said guerrillas made significant gains against the Marxist government this week, particularly in eastern Afghanistan.

A Western diplomat confirmed the fall of Sharar, capital of Paktika province in eastern Afghanistan. Three of the 29 provincial capitals now are reportedly under guerrilla control.

"It only significance is that it's a provincial capital, nothing else," said Azim Naser-Zia of the National Islamic Front of Afghanistan resistance organisation.

The guerrilla-controlled Afghan news agency said government troops at Sharar were captured, but it gave no figures. Guerrillas claim to control Tolagan, the northeastern provincial capital of Takhar, and the central Bamiyan provincial capital.

Naser-Zia said Afghan guerrillas also took control of Sarobi, 58 kilometres east of the Afghan capital on the strategic Kabul-Jalalabad highway. He said the city has a hydroelectric plant that

feeds power to the capital, Kabul.

In other fighting, Afghan rebels

said the heady fortified

military town of Urgun in Paktika

province was captured.

Jan Mohammad of the Hezb-

E-Islami group's Khalis faction

said the garrison town was over-

run during a joint operation

Wednesday involving guerrillas from the seven resistance parties, headquartered in Peshawar.

A field commander with the

Hezb-E-Islami resistance group

said the fall of Urgun gives the

guerrillas full control of Paktika

province.

"Urgun is considered the most

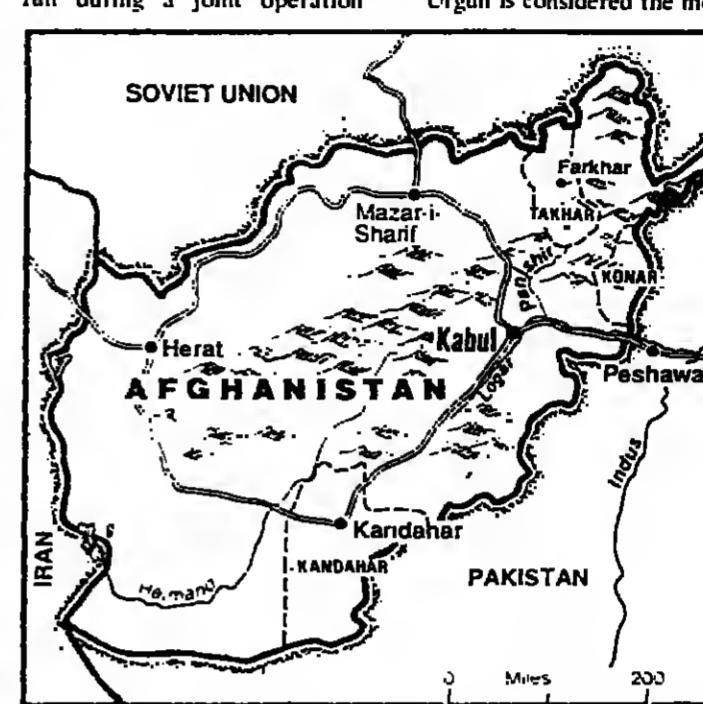
strategic district in Paktika," said a guerrilla spokesman. "It is very important, as control of Urgun allows control of the most strategic roads to north and central Afghanistan."

The U.S.-supported Afghan guerrillas have been fighting the Soviet-backed Kabul government for the past 10 years. The Soviet army, which entered Afghanistan to prop up the embattled Communist government in December 1979, began leaving in May.

A United Nations agreement signed in Geneva provides for the complete withdrawal of about 100,000 Soviet troops by Feb. 15.

Gunmen threaten Chile's consul in Istanbul

ISTANBUL (R) — Four men forced their way into the office of Chile's honorary consul in Istanbul Friday and threatened him with a gun, state-run Turkish radio said. It said one shot was fired into the floor of the office of lawyer Mordo Dinar. The gunmen then fled, leaving behind placards bearing political slogans. The radio did not specify the nature of the slogans and Chilean embassy officials in Ankara were not available for comment.



Awad: Support for Palestinian uprising grows

WAPAKONETA, Ohio (AP) — Mubarak Awad, a Jerusalem-born U.S. citizen expelled in June from Israel on charges of sedition, says support is growing for Palestinians battling Israeli forces in the occupied territories.

Awad, whose mother lives in

this west-central Ohio town, said Palestinian leaders appear to be softening their demands for ending the 9-month-old conflict while Israeli determination to continue it is diminishing.

"Israeli citizens are deciding now not to join the army. They are saying loud and clear 'we need peace. How can we, as Jews, [and] how can Israel occupy someone else?'" said Awad, an advocate of Palestinian civil disobedience against Israeli rule in the territories.

Awad was arrested May 5 by Israeli authorities on charges he helped compile leaflets urging Palestinian violence as part of the

uprising in the Israeli-occupied territories. He was imprisoned until June 12, when he was deported. Awad, however, vowed to return, even if he had to be converted from Christianity to Judaism and seek re-entry under Israel's law of return.

The longer Israeli troops remain in the occupied areas, Awad said, the more determined Palestinians become to resist and the more costly it becomes to the government of Israel.

Palestinian youths began the revolt in December, but Awad said, "it has become a family issue, and they're more united now than ever against Israel."

Mubarak pays tribute to Sadat

CAIRO (R) — Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak paid tribute to his predecessor Anwar Sadat as both warrior and peacemaker on the seventh anniversary of Sadat's assassination by Muslim militants.

The government quietly mourned Sadat while celebrating the 15th anniversary of Egypt's most successful military venture against Israel — storming across the Suez Canal into occupied Sinai.

Mubarak, in a statement Thursday, praised Sadat, who signed a peace pact with Israel in

the past two months.

Friends and well-wishers visited his widow Jihan, who divides her time between Cairo and the United States, and laid wreaths at his mausoleum.

The government staged the

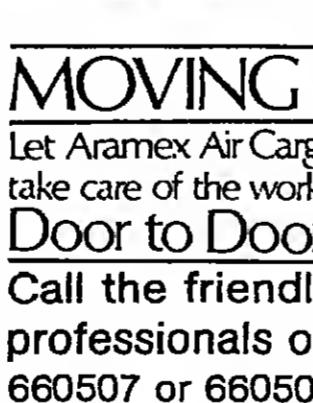
main celebrations Wednesday, a day early, and Mubarak attended the first military parade on this anniversary since 1981.

Mubarak's statement said

Sadat would go down in history as "the decision-maker in launching war and making peace until he fell in honour."

Apart from leading Egypt into war only six years after the Arabs' 1967 defeat by Israel, Sadat is remembered mainly as a man who did the unthinkable for most Arabs — going to Israel and negotiating peace.

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Business leaders expect slow U.S. growth in next 2 years

HOT SPRINGS, Virginia (AP) — Top U.S. business leaders offered an optimistic view of economic prospects Friday, predicting growth will slow enough next year to avoid a severe acceleration of inflation.

The Business Council, composed of 62 chief executives of the United States' largest corporations, predicted that the economy, as measured by the gross national product (GNP), will grow four per cent in 1988, the best in four years.

"We are living in a continued strong economy," said Jabb Reed, chairman of Citicorp, the country's largest bank. "We are very close to full employment. and the inflation numbers ... are generally felt to be in pretty good shape."

The new GNP prediction, reflecting the consensus of the chief economists of about 20 member corporations, is 1.6 percentage points better than the prediction last May when the executives last gathered for their semiannual retreat at this resort town in the mountains of Western Virginia.

"Some U.S. economists in the spring still were worried about lingering aftershocks from the stock market crash of October

1987. Growth proved to be stronger than nearly anyone anticipated, and now the concern is that it is too vigorous and likely to fuel inflation.

But the Business Council's economists are projecting GNP growth of 2.5 per cent next year and less than two per cent in 1990, in line with what the Federal Reserve Board, the U.S. central bank, considers necessary for a "soft landing" of the economy to a sustainable, non-inflationary expansion. The economists were expecting more inflation, an increase from a 4.2 per cent rate this year to 5.1 per cent next year, but "no one expected a return to the high inflation rates of the late 1970s and early 1980s," their report said.

They also foresaw a modest rise in interest rates next year followed by some easing in 1990. The rate on 30-year treasury bonds, which tend to run about 1.5 percentage points below fixed-rate mortgages, should ir-

crease from an average of 9.1 per cent this year, peak at 10.2 per cent over the next 18 months and average 9.5 per cent in 1990, the council said.

The business executives were troubled, however, about the prospects for reducing the U.S. budget deficit and for shrinking the trade deficit without a further decline in the value of the dollar.

"The business community generally remains very concerned about the twin deficits and of what we are afraid and convinced will be the undesirable price we'll pay for it if we don't solve it," said Edmund Pratt, chairman of Pfizer Inc., a health care company.

The economic panel saw only negligible improvement through 1990 from the current budget gap of about \$150 billion. The trade deficit is expected to shrink from \$170 billion in 1987 to \$134 billion this year and to below \$100 billion by 1990.

But the business executives said the dollar, which fell steadily through 1986 and 1987 before beginning to rebound this year, will have to start falling again. A cheaper dollar makes U.S. goods more affordable on overseas markets.

The economic panel predicted the dollar would be worth 120

Japanese yen and 1.68 Deutschemarks, down from 134 yen and 1.88 marks currently.

"I think it's unfortunate that the dollar firmed from the first of the year. I think we were closer to the right range earlier in the year than we are today," said Willard Butcher, chairman of Chase Manhattan Bank.

Group urges changes to boost competitiveness

Another group concluded in new study that the United States must revamp outdated government regulations and tax policies to boost the ability of American businesses to compete internation-

ally. The Committee for Economic Development, a group of 200 U.S. business leaders and educators, said that too often American politicians characterize increased global trade as a threat rather than an opportunity.

"As a result, they do not recognise the need to reform outmoded policies that were developed in an era when most Americans felt they had little stake in foreign economic developments," the report said.

The study said that an increasingly integrated world economy posed problems for American businesses and workers. It said special attention was needed for retraining workers in declining industries and improving the U.S. education system.

"In a highly integrated global economy, a nation that falls behind in the education and training of its labour force will not remain a leading economic power," the report said.

The group singled out the 1986 tax reform act as one example of legislation enacted with little attention to its impact on the ability of U.S. companies to compete abroad. The group criticised the elimination of various tax benefits for business investments, saying these changes had raised the cost of capital in the United States.

Tax overhaul supporters argued that the changes eliminated loopholes and lowered overall tax rates, thus creating a fairer tax structure.

The study said that a host of U.S. budget and tax policies as well as federal regulations need to be revised.

"We ask the British government if it believes in the right to economic freedom, and if it really appreciates the meaning of friendship and values the weight of traditional ties such as those between Britain and Kuwait?" Al Rai Al Aam asked.

"The plain truth is that Kuwait's purchase of the B.P. shares was, in effect, a rescue operation by a sincere friend of Britain... surely this is not the way to say thank you."

KIO built up its stake after last October's world stock market crash jeopardised a government plan to sell B.P. shares to the public.

Al Rai Al Aam said Kuwait, one of the world's largest investors, would now have to review its investments in Britain.

"The matter will not be limited to the government, but will include individuals and banks and companies and all Kuwaiti investment institutions. They will withdraw their deposits and transfer their investments to other, more stable European states," the paper predicted.

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Iraq, Jordan to set up joint detergents plant

AMMAN (OPECNA) — The board of directors of the Iraqi-Jordanian Industrial Company which met here this week, agreed to set up a joint firm for the manufacture of detergents.

The plant, with a production capacity of 60,000 tonnes a year, will be located in Salahuddin province, north of Baghdad. Iraq and Jordan will own 51 per cent of the firm's shares, while the balance will be offered for subscription to the private sector in both countries.

The board, under the chairmanship of Iraqi Industry Undersecretary Mohsen Alwan, also agreed to establish a project in Jordan for wood furniture to meet the requirements of Iraqi and Jordanian markets.

The scheme will be implemented later this year if feasibility studies prove viable.

The joint Iraqi-Jordanian company was set up in 1983 as part of an economic and technical cooperation agreement signed by the two countries in May 1980.

Banker discounts big Gulf upturn at low oil prices

DUBAI (R) — Oil prices at \$10 to \$11 a barrel will strangle any big upturn for the economies of the Gulf countries, a leading local banker said.

Sultan Nasser Al Suweidi, managing director of the Abu Dhabi Commercial Bank, said in the newspaper Emirates News Thursday that the economic recession in the area had reached bottom but current optimism for a big revival was overdone.

"The oil situation affects the whole economy of the region. One really has to think only a very little to realise the effect of the low (oil) prices," he said. He also ruled out major be-

nfits for the United Arab Emirates (UAE) after the end of the fighting between Iran and Iraq.

Dubai, the UAE's main reexport centre, received 70 per cent of its revenues from internal business and the reexport trade traditionally ran on very thin margins. he said.

The ceasefire between Iran and Iraq Aug. 20 initially encouraged some analysts to predict oil prices would rise because oil producers could agree to limit output.

Some economists also predicted a business boom from renewed trade with the two war-torn economies.

Dealers see further slide for Turkish lira

ANKARA (R) — Turkey's currency has fallen sharply against the dollar this year and market dealers said Friday a further slide was inevitable.

Dealers said they expected the lira's official rate to decline to around 2,100 to the dollar by the end of 1988, compared with 1,718 now and 1,020 at the end of last year.

Factors behind the fall are seen as increased liquidity in the banking system and inflation, which hit an eight-year high of 81.8 per cent in September, double the September 1987 figure.

Liquidity is high and a further lira depreciation can be expected," Yilmaz Karakoyunlu, general manager of Istanbul's Atlas Doviz A.S. foreign exchange bureau, told Reuters.

"We estimate the lira's official rate at between 2,070 and 2,140 to the dollar by the end of the year," he said.

Bankers said the official rate was set daily by commercial banks in tandem with the central bank following an unofficial practice of allowing the lira to fall at a pace of between one and five per cent over domestic inflation.

"Devaluation of the lira should speed up to allow it to reach its real value against inflation," a Turkish banker said.

The lira's slide, which has gained momentum since the central bank liberalised money markets in August, and high inflation were factors behind conservative Prime Minister Turgut Ozal's defeat in a constitutional referendum last month.

Ozal, who has made economic liberalisation his hallmark since taking office in 1983, won only 35 per cent backing in the plebiscite, widely seen as a confidence vote.

The lira's slide this month has been accompanied by a growing gap between official rates and quotes on the officially-tolerated Tahtakale black currency market in Istanbul.

The gap, reduced to zero in

April after the government introduced measures to support the lira, rose to 112 lira Thursday, with the Tahtakale quoting 1,830 lira to the dollar.

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Amman Financial Market weekly trading

Following is a summary of trading during last week and the previous week:

	Oct. 1-5	Sept. 24-28
Daily average	JD 320,780	JD 523,554
Total volume	JD 1,600,936	JD 2,617,770
Total shares	1,759,088	2,409,285
No. of contracts	1,894	1,811

Sectoral trading:

	Industrial	JD 831,571
Financial	JD 366,599	JD 1,511,312
Services	(22.9%)	(57.7%)
Insurance	(7.0%)	(9.0%)
Share price index	115.8	115.0
No. of companies	60	68
Price movement (rise)	26 firms	25
(decline)	14 firms	25
(stable)	20 firms	25

AMMAN EXCHANGE RATES

	Thursday rates			
	Central Bank official rates	Buy Sell	Buy Sell	
U.S. dollar	376.3	380.3	414.7	417.7
Pound Sterling	638.5	644.4	698.7	710.5
Deutschmark	201.1	204.1	220.7	225.0
Swiss franc	237.8	240.2	255.0	261.8
French franc	59.3	59.9	64.4	65.4
Japanese yen (for 100)	282.0	284.8	—	—
Dutch guilder	179.2	181.0	—	—
Swedish crown	50.0	59.6	59.0	60.0
Italian lira (for 100)	27.1	27.4	—	—
Belgian franc (for 10)	96.4	97.4	110.1	110.7
Saudi riyal	—	—	0.9	1.4
Lebanese lira	—	—	9.6	9.9
Syrian lira	—	—	273.5	290.0
Traqi dinar	—	—	1432.8	1440.6
Kuwaiti dinar	—	—	165.3	171.1
Egyptian pound (old)	—	—	155.3	161.1
Egyptian pound (new)	—	—	112.4	113.3
UAE dirham	—	—	113.7	114.3
Qatari riyal	—	—	1073.0	1082.0
Omani riyal	—	—	1093.7	1103.0

Sports

BASEBALL PLAYOFFS

Oakland Athletics defeat Boston Red Sox

BOSTON (AP) — Rookie Walt Weiss, the ninth-place hitter in a lineup of sluggers, singled home the tie-breaking run in the ninth inning Thursday night allowing the Oakland Athletics beat the Boston Red Sox 4-3 for a commanding 2-0 lead in the American League playoffs.

The Athletics now head home, where they swept all six games from Boston this season and have won 14 of the last 15. Game 3 is Friday night with Oakland's Bob Welch facing Mike Boddicker.

Jose Canseco, who led the majors with 42 home runs and 124 RBI, homered for the second straight game and Mark McGwire hit an RBI single in the seventh for a 3-2 lead before Rich Gedman's home run in the bottom half of the ninth tied it.

The Red Sox broke through for two unearned runs in the sixth, aided by Dave Henderson's error, but Canseco and Mark McGwire helped Oakland rally for a 3-2 lead in the seventh.

Tyson gets advice

NEW YORK (R) — Troubled World Heavyweight champion Mike Tyson brought traffic to a halt on Tuesday as hundreds of ordinary New Yorkers shouted out advice to him on his marital problems.

The main advice seemed to be that he should dump his wife. Police had to squeeze the burly boxer through a crowd of hundreds of squealing secretaries and shouting shoppers so that he could get into a car.

Members of the crowd shouted "get rid of her" — a reference to Tyson's actress wife, Robin Givens, who flew to California after calling police to calm Tyson down after he hurled furniture out the window of their New Jersey mansion.

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN
AND OMAR SHARIF

HALF RIGHT OR HALF WRONG?

Neither vulnerable. North deals.

NORTH
♦ J 10 7 4
A 4
A K 7 3
+ 10 3

WEST
+ Q
K 9 8 6 5 2
8 7
Q J 10 6 5 4 2
+ A 8 7 6 2 + J 9

SOUTH
A 3
K 9 6 5 3
9 8
+ K Q 5 4

The bidding:
North East South West
1 Pass 1 Pass
2 Pass 4 Pass
Pass Pass

Opening lead: Queen of ♦

There are two ways of looking at it. The optimist says it has a 50 percent chance of winning; the pessimist says it's even money it will lose. In bridge, it pays to look on the dark side, if you can afford it.

The auction was straightforward. With an opening bid facing an opening bid, game was reached in quick time.

Four hearts was a popular contract when this hand was played in a national pair championship, and the

usual lead was the queen of spades. Most declarer won, cashed the king of trumps and then took a trump finesse. East was happy to win the queen and lead a third trump, and in the fullness of time declarer lost two club tricks and a spade for down one.

Mayotte, 28, has not dropped a set in the tournament so far. He earned a meeting with surprising Japanese player Shuzo Matsuo today.

Matsuo, ranked just 193rd in the world, overpowered Australian teenager Jason Stoltenberg 6-3, 6-4 in one hour 27 minutes Friday.

The tall 20-year-old from Tokyo served strongly and did not allow Stoltenberg, 18, to settle.

"I played a thinking match," Matsuo said.

In other quarter-final action, Australian Brad Dyke rallied from down American Leif Shiras 1-6, 6-4, 6-1 and American Marty Davis breezed past 18-year-old Australian Richard Fromberg 7-6, 7-6, 6-1.

Dyke is playing in only his second tournament after being sidelined for seven weeks with a shoulder injury.

"I'm still in the tournament, so I have to give myself a chance," said the gritty little left-hander, who will face Davis in the other semi.

"Marty kept the pressure right on me and it paid off," Fromberg said after his loss.

But they need to tighten a

West tried shifting to the queen of diamonds, but declarer was in control as the cards lay. He won on the table, led a club to the queen and if second placed Norwich fail at Derby, Liverpool should be riding high again.

Luton, boosted by the return of defender Ashley Grimes and midfielder Darren McDonough, are looking for their first home win.

Grimes has been out for a fortnight with an ankle problem and McDonough is fit again six months after a knee operation.

Norwich manager Dave Stringer may have to change his side for the first time in eight matches.

Striker Robert Rosario, whose form has been a key part of Norwich's good start, is doubtful after bursting his ankle in training.

Charlton, enjoying a three-match unbeaten run including last weekend's 3-1 success at Norwich, tackle Tottenham with every confidence that for once the season will not be a long-running flirtation with relegation.

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Defeated Pinochet refuses to quit early

Violence clouds Chilean jubilation

SANTIAGO (R) — Two people were shot dead and two wounded Thursday night when mass celebrations turned violent following President Augusto Pinochet's defeat in a plebiscite on continued military rule, police said.

Police shot and killed a 31-year-old man when residents of a Santiago slum stoned a police bus after blocking streets with burning tyres.

A youth aged 14 was shot in the head by unidentified gunmen in a working class district where exuberant demonstrators danced and sang in the streets, police said.

Pinochet earlier accepted defeat in the presidential plebiscite but, in a television appearance, ruled out any negotiations with opponents on reducing the time he can remain in office.

Results released by the government showed 43 per cent of Chile's seven million electorate voted in favour of extending Pinochet's rule for another eight years while 55 per cent voted against.

The result means that Chile must hold free elections by the end of next year.

"I accept and respect the verdict of the majority, expressed yesterday by the people," Pinochet, looking stern and dressed in his uniform as commander-in-chief of the army, said Thursday.

But the 72-year-old added: "I renew my commitment to fulfil (my) mandate."

Police said 58 people were arrested Thursday when thousands of demonstrators chanting "he has fallen, he has fallen" marched on the presidential palace and were repelled by riot police with shields, truncheons and clouds of tear gas.

Celebrations by overjoyed opponents continued well into the night in the capital and other Chilean cities.

On the affluent east side of Santiago, groups of right-wing youths stoned caravans of honking government opponents who drove round the city flying banners loudly proclaiming victory.

The single-candidate plebiscite was the first direct vote since 1973.



Chileans, young and old, demonstrate against the rule of Augusto Pinochet in the run-up to Wednesday's referendum, which produced a 55 per cent "no" against another eight-year term for the strongman president (Sigma photo)

Hirohito's illness re-opens debate over monarchy's role

TOKYO (AP) — Emperor Hirohito's illness has re-opened a national debate on the role of the monarchy, with critics charging that moves by members of the ruling party are opportunistic attempts to fan reverence for the institution.

After the turn for the worse in the emperor's health Sept. 19, leading Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) members, including Prime Minister Noboru Takeshita, began cancelling trips abroad, calling off fund-raising parties and keeping as close to the capital as possible.

These moves angered the Japan Socialist Party, the largest opposition bloc in parliament, and the Japan Communist Party, which said the workings of government were suffering.

Some LDP members and mainstream newspapers have voiced agreement. The Communist Party is strongly anti-monarchy, and

it is the only main opposition party whose leaders haven't visited the palace to wish the emperor well. The Socialist Party doesn't directly oppose the existence of the monarchy, though there is a range of views within the party.

Criticism of the government's actions also came from Tanenori Fukushima, chairman of the 10,000-member Japan-China Friendship Association.

"The government and ruling party are trying to take advantage of the emperor's illness and create an artificial mood of mourning," he said in a complaint filed Tuesday with the prime minister's office.

The leftist association criticised moves by conservatives within the LDP to arrange registers across the nation where citizens could go to sign their names and wish the emperor a speedy recovery from his intestinal bleeding.

S. Korea calls for trade with North

SEOUL (AP) — South Korea called on North Korea Friday to open up trade and said it would drop trade barriers to promote ties and reduce tension with its archrival.

Deputy Prime Minister and Economic Planning Minister Rhi Woong-Bae told a news conference that the capitalistic South would not impose tariffs on trade with the communist North. Instead, he said transactions would be treated as domestic commerce.

Military products will be excluded from the proposed trade, he said.

Rha called for a quick start to trade both directly and through third nations. He proposed talks on working out trading details, but said trade should start as quickly as possible.

Rha said he saw "growing possibility for inter-Korean trade through third countries in the near future in view of changes in the situation." He was apparently

success.

Rha told a press conference the trade proposal was intended to seek prosperity for both countries, split since 1945 at the end of World War II.

North and South Korea held five rounds of talks on economic cooperation in 1985 but the North called off the talks in January 1986 when Pyongyang ended all dialogue with Seoul to protest U.S.-South Korean joint military training exercises.

Rha, South Korea's top economic official, said it will allow South Korean and foreign traders in the South to import North Korean goods directly from the North or through third countries and also allow them to export South Korean goods to the North directly or through other countries.

He said a resumption of economic talks is necessary to agree on trade formula, settlement of accounts and other matters.

Zia supporters form alliance

ISLAMABAD (R) — Supporters of the late President Mohammad Zia-Ul-Haq have banded together to fight Benazir Bhutto's Pakistan People's Party in elections next month.

An announcement by leaders of eight mainly right-wing and religious parties Thursday night said the alliance would put up joint candidates Nov. 16.

The elections are the first to be contested by political parties since Zia seized power in 1977.

The programme of the "Islamic Democratic Alliance" (IDA) included making Islamic laws supreme in Pakistan and full support

for the rebels in Afghanistan. Political analysts said the alliance is dominated by the Pakistan Muslim League headed by federal and provincial ministers appointed by the late military ruler. The other seven parties have little national influence individually, they said.

The alliance was formed at a meeting called by former Sind province Chief Minister Ghulam Mustafa Jatoi, a Bhutto ally who broke with the 35-year-old People's Party leader two years ago.

In 1970 the People's Party under Bhutto's father, Zulfikar Ali Bhutto, won 59 per cent of

national assembly seats with only 39 per cent of the popular vote.

Political pundits say Zia's death in a plane crash Aug. 17 has made the People's Party a favourite to become at least the biggest party in the assembly.

The party in turn dominates the movement for the Restoration of Democracy, a nine-party anti-Zia alliance.

Three other parties, including the Pakistan Muslim League headed by former Prime Minister Mohammad Khan Junejo, are also widely reported to be planning an electoral pact.

Managua passes U.S. aid ban

MANAGUA (AP) — National lawmakers have passed a bill barring Nicaraguans from accepting my assistance from the U.S. government, including humanitarian aid.

Meanwhile, opposition leaders assailed a new emergency law that gives President Daniel Ortega sweeping powers to curb civil liberties.

The anti-assistance bill, approved Thursday by the national Assembly, prohibits all aid approved by the U.S. Congress and destined for opposition groups, the Roman Catholic Church, labour unions and individuals. Violators face between four and 12 years imprisonment.

under the law.

A week ago, U.S. President Ronald Reagan signed a \$27 million, six-month humanitarian aid package for Nicaraguan rebels, known as contras.

The Sandinistas and the contras agreed March 21 to suspend offensive operations, but talks aimed at a permanent end to the seven-year-old war stand at an impasse. They have repeatedly accused each other of true violations.

The emergency powers law, approved Wednesday by the assembly, gives the president authority to declare a state of emergency for reasons of war, economic crisis or national disaster.

They include La Prensa, the

Baltic parliaments vote their languages official

MOSCOW (R) — In an apparent concession to a resurgence of national feeling in the Soviet Baltic countries, the Latvian and Lithuanian parliaments have voted to give their republics' languages official status.

And, for the first time since the republics were absorbed with neighbouring Estonia into the Soviet Union in 1940, their parliaments have also formally reinstated their flags, Lithuanian and Latvian journalists said Friday.

The moves came just before a mass rally due later Friday in the Latvian capital, Riga, ahead of this weekend's founding congress of a new mass movement called the Latvian Popular Front.

The official Soviet news agency TASS, in a brief report from Riga, confirmed Latvian had been adopted as the official language by the republic's parliament Thursday. But it did not mention the approval of the republic's white and red striped flag.

A Lithuanian journalist told Reuters by telephone from the Lithuanian capital, Vilnius, that the parliament there also passed resolutions Thursday approving the language and official use of its flag.

The yellow, green and red Lithuanian flag was then hoisted in front of a 100,000-strong cheering crowd in central Vilnius Friday morning, he said.

Language and national flag are potent symbols in the Baltic republics where a new openness prompted by Kremlin "glasnost" has allowed increasing public demands for democracy and expression of national feelings against "Russification."

The ethnic people of the three Soviet Baltic republics, who now only just form a majority in Latvia and Estonia, complain their language and culture have been threatened by mass immigration from Russia and other parts of the Soviet Union.

In Estonia, where the ruling Communist Party appears to have taken Kremlin calls for "democratisation" further and more literally than elsewhere, the flag was given national status in June.

The Estonian language has not yet been made official but its parliament is working on legislation likely to be adopted later this year.

Yugoslav leaders forced to resign

NOVI SAD, Yugoslavia (Agencies) — The president of Yugoslavia's Vojvodina province resigned Thursday as 100,000 protesters demanded that his entire administration quit office, Novi Sad television said.

President Nandor Major resigned after crowds laid siege to official buildings and tried to breach police barricades in the provincial capital Novi Sad, the television said.

Communist Party leaders of Serbia, Yugoslavia's biggest republic, backed the demonstrators' call for the resignations of all the leaders of Vojvodina.

Serbs want to trim the autonomy of the republic's two provinces of Vojvodina and Kosovo, which has an ethnic Albanian majority population.

The protest, the second in as many days, was the fiercest in a crusade by Serbian Communist Party chief Slobodan Milošević to get back control of the two regions, a focus of political and ethnic tension in Yugoslavia.

Police said several people were injured when the crowd surged forward against police barricades.

Serbia's Communist Party Politburo at an emergency meeting with Vojvodina leaders in Belgrade Thursday called for the immediate resignation of the Vo-

jvodina Politburo and for a purge of the province's media.

Vojvodina leaders told protesters Wednesday they would resign Thursday. The Serbian Politburo insisted they do so at a session in Novi Sad, the provincial capital, Thursday afternoon.

"Only a radical personnel shake-up can return the lost respect and support of (Vojvodina's) citizens," said a statement by the Serbian Politburo read over Belgrade radio.

Serbia is unique among Yugoslavia's six republics in having two autonomous provinces over which it has little control. The provinces were given sweeping autonomy by a 1974 federal constitution which is now under review.

At the heart of Serbia's constitutional reform drive is the plight of Serbs in Kosovo who say its ethnic Albanian majority is persecuting them.

Police and local journalists estimated Thursday's crowd in Novi Sad at over 100,000.

Several women fainted and protesters threw yoghurt cups, cartons of fruit juice and slices of salami at the Central Committee building.

Police had earlier put up iron barricades in front of the Central Committee buildings.

Column 8

Molly makes authorised exit

KANSAS CITY, Missouri (AP) — Molly, the gorilla with a baby of escaping, made another exit from the Kansas City Zoo, but this time it was authorised. Molly, who twice had escaped her confines here, was sent to the Columbus Zoo, where zoo keepers hope she will find happiness in Ohio with Bongo. Bongo, a 31-year-old gorilla, has been raising a son, Fossey, since Fossey's mother died about a year ago. Molly, 12, is being loaned as part of a national breeding programme, the two zoos will share in any offspring. There are about 500 gorillas in captivity. In July, Molly's primate branch against the wall of her outside exhibit and made a break. She was caught after wandering around the camels and woolly monkeys. Last month, Molly's acrobatics landed her atop the ape house. She climbed down, and walked through the front door. No one was hurt in either escape.

Stars campaign for Democrats

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Fifty celebrities, including Cher and Gregory Peck, will travel the U.S. northwest coast this weekend by "star Spangled caravan" in a registration drive aimed at Democratic party voters. The bus caravan starts in Los Angeles and will stop at cities in the U.S. states of Washington, Oregon and California in an effort to sign up voters in a region considered crucial to victory in the November U.S. presidential election. organisers said. "We're not entirely innocent in intent," Peck said, acknowledging the celebrities hope the tour will drum up support for the Democrat candidate Michael Dukakis. "This is not altruism." The region offers 64 combined electoral votes, nearly one-quarter of the 270 needed to win the White House. The tour will also include actors Marlee Matlin, Sally Field, Rob Lowe and Morgan Fairchild.

Elvis' daughter marries musician

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Elvis Presley's daughter married a young musician she's been dating for three years during a private ceremony this week at the Church of Scientology, her publicist said Wednesday. Lisa Marie Presley, 20, and musician Danny Keogh, 23, recited wedding vows Monday during the small service at the huge Hollywood headquarters for the church. Paul Bloch said. He offered few details about the ceremony. "In attendance were the mother of the bride, actress Priscilla Beaulieu Presley, family and a few close friends," said Bloch, who represents the mother daughter. It was the first marriage for each. Miss Presley is the only heir of the rock superstar, who died in 1977.

Ghost haunts Moscow

MOSCOW (AP) — A ghost is haunting Moscow, and it's snatching its Soviet neighbours' belongings and conversing with them in code, a newspaper reported Wednesday. The labour daily Trud, describing what it called the probable sighting of a "poltergeist" in the capital, said the ghost has dwelt for the past three weeks in a Moscow women's dormitory, along with a trio of young house painters. The women have learned to communicate with the ghost through a system of knocks. Trud said. Two knocks mean no, and one means yes, the paper said. When Trud reporters O. Kyyatkovsky and I. Mogila visited the dormitory, the spectre had stolen a boot. The women asked it a series of questions, and got one "yes" knock after asking if the boot was behind a shelf.

Sprint shambles at race track

SALISBURY (R) — A horse race was reduced to a near-shambles Wednesday because the track was too narrow. Just two minutes before the start of the 21-runner sprint it was realised there was only room to fit 20 starting stalls across the course. Starter Simon Morant decided to dispense with the stalls and use a flag. However, when the flag dropped, horses were going in all directions, many of them sideways. Two horses bolted the full length of the track and altogether three horses were withdrawn. Morant ruled a false start, but with 18 runners he was then able to use the stalls. When the race finally got under way, 25 minutes late, it was won without further drama by 10-1 shot Panda Prince.

WORLD NEWS IN BRIEF

Haitian workers protest firings

PONT-AU-PRINCE (AP) — About 800 street cleaners and garbage collectors demonstrated in front of city hall to protest their firings by newly-appointed Mayor Carmen Christophe, radio Haiti-Inter reported. Other municipal employees joined the demonstrators Thursday and went on strike, saying the mayor had no right to fire poor people and was incompetent, the radio said. Christophe accused the garbage-truck drivers of being followers of ousted Mayor Franck Romain, who is reputed to be a leader of the dreaded Tonton Macoutes, the feared henchmen of the Duvalier regime. Romain is suspected of being a mastermind of the Sept. 11 attack on the Saint Jean Bosco Church that left 12 dead and more than 70 wounded.

Indian ban on book sparks protest

NEW DELHI (R) — Indian newspapers Friday condemned a government decision to ban India-born novelist Salman Rushdie's latest book. The London-based writer's satanic verses, shortlisted for Britain's prestigious Booker prize, was banned Wednesday after complaints it was offensive to Islam. "The book is not seductive, it does not threaten the security of the state, it is not pornographic or harmful to the morals of minors," the Indian Express newspaper said in an editorial. "It has been banned simply because of the demand of a handful of people who claim to be the arbiters of what constitutes sacrilege and the boundaries of novelistic licence." To ban the book the government used a 19th century law empowering it to halt the import of materials which could cause enmity between communities.

Pakistani receives top U.N. aid award

GENEVA (R) — A Pakistani government official who supervised assistance to more than three million homeless Afghans has been awarded the highest United Nations distinction for aid to refugees, the U.N. said Friday. Syed Munir Husain, secretary of Pakistan's States and Frontier Ministry (Safron) from 1982 to 1987, will receive the Nansen Medal from the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), Jean-Pierre Hocke, in Geneva Nov. 3. The announcement said Husain for five years headed the world's largest refugee assistance operation. He helped Afghans who had fled fighting in their homeland between rebel guerrillas and Afghan and Soviet troops. The medal is named after the late Norwegian scholar and explorer Fridtjof Nansen, first high commissioner for refugees.

Dhaka to distribute wheat

DHAKA (R) — Bangladesh will distribute 327,000 tonnes of wheat to 1.7 million families affected by last month's floods, an official said Friday. "The floods have almost crippled these people and they are physically too weak to undertake any job," said Mohammad Munizuzzaman, secretary of the Relief and Rehabilitation Ministry. Official Friday raised the death toll in the floods, which engulfed three-quarters of the country, to 3,000. They made 45 million people homeless. Waters have now receded from many areas. Officials said desperate crowds often rush helicopters carrying relief supplies, making distribution difficult. "There were occasions when a big mob attacked a helicopter as soon as it landed in an affected area and looted away all the foodstuff it